



CURRENT CAPITAL TOPICS.

Secretary Sherman's One Hundredth Call for Bonds.

The Five Per Cents of 1858 Called in--Professor H. C. Lohr, Among the Locusts--Southern Refugees in Kansas--A New Cable Project--A Retreat for the Democracy--The Great Republic, &c.

The One Hundredth Call for Bonds.

A call was issued yesterday by the Secretary of the Treasury for the balance of the loan of 1858 5 per cent, amounting to \$20,000,000. These bonds are of the denomination of \$5,000, numbered from 1 to 337, and all registered.

Republican Congressional Committee.

The Republican Congressional Committee held a meeting last night at the Ebbitt House and elected an executive committee, of which Hon. J. A. Hubbell was chosen chairman by ballot, and a secretary, J. W. Foster.

The Entomological Commission.

The secretary of the Revenue Board at Madras, India (J. Strickland, esq.), officially acknowledges the receipt of copies of the report of the United States Entomological Commission on the Rocky Mountain locust. He also transmits to Professor Riley, chief of the commission, a number of the locusts that prove so destructive in India and several official documents, which show the fearful ravages of these pests in that country and the heroic efforts they bear to the famine that from time to time occur there.

Colored Immigrants in Kansas.

A telegram from Governor St. John, of Kansas, was filed as a petition yesterday by Representative Haskell. It sets forth that from 1,500 to 2,000 colored immigrants are now in and about Wyandotte, and are making the greater portion of whom are destitute of means to provide for the necessities of life. To be able to meet any contingency that may arise, and to prevent the poor and unfortunate class of refugees from suffering for want of necessary shelter and food, the Governor submits that it would be an act of justice for the Government to provide tents and rations for the colored immigrants to be made to afford them an opportunity to provide for themselves, which he says would be but a short time. The document was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

A New Atlantic Cable Project.

An extraordinary meeting of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company (limited) has been called to meet in London, to receive a report from the directors as to the formation of a French undertaking for the working of the company's Brest, St. Pierre and Duxbury cable. The capital is fixed at \$500,000, in 40,000 shares of \$10 each. It is explained that, in view of the certain loss which must ensue to all the parties if the new cables were laid, negotiations were opened with the French company on the basis of the transfer to that company of the working of the present Brest cable; but as no satisfactory terms could be come to, the Anglo-American company has decided to establish a separate French undertaking, to which the concession held by the Anglo-American company and the working of the Brest, St. Pierre and Duxbury cable should be transferred. The Anglo-American company propose to take a considerable interest in the shares of the new concern.

The House Restaurant.

The introduction of so many of the unwashed into the House of Representatives has discovered the fact that the sanitary arrangements are too limited to meet the wants of that class of statesmen who regard it their chief duty to eat and drink. Hence a subcommittee has been intrusted with the work of tearing out the basement of the south wing of the Capitol and converting it into one vast cafe, where the members can eat, drink, and make merry. The first dinner was given on Tuesday evening at the back-rooms of the House. The Democrats ever think of personal purification, and only regard bath-tubs as proper arrangements for being covered over to accommodate a sleeping party. The final conclusion had been reached that they must go to give more place to the restaurant. But there were enough members of the House who regard cleanliness to go to the aid of the temperate and decent, and the vandal hand was turned aside. It is now proposed that the room at present occupied by the Committee on Printing be converted into a dining-parlor, or rather to a portion of the ladies' reception room, connected therewith, and that the room thus vacated be utilized for extending the House restaurant. This change is, no doubt, the most desirable, and will increase the popularity of the new catering to be inaugurated in that important department of legislation.

Changes Among Committees.

Immediately preceding the recess in the House yesterday Speaker Randall announced that by mutual consent of the members themselves the following changes in committees were made: Mr. Loring of Massachusetts will take the place of Mr. Robeson, of New Jersey, on the Committee on Ventilation of the Hall; Mr. Robeson will take Mr. Loring's place on the Committee on Mines and Mining; Mr. Albertson, of Ohio, will take the place of Mr. Warner, of Ohio, on the Committee on Mines and Mining.

The Senate Employees.

Whatever may be the outcome of the debate which has for the past few days occupied the attention of the Senate in relation to the appointments and removals of clerks and employees of that body, it is certain that if they must, like the Chinese, "go," they will go with flying colors. They certainly feel complimented highly by the interest manifested in them by such distinguished Senators as Anthony, Cocking, Edmunds, and Hambleton, and the admissions as to their efficiency and courtesy made by Democratic Senators must be scarcely less gratifying. They will lose their places, but maintain their character.

The Disaster to the Great Republic.

The Secretary of the Treasury has under consideration the disaster to the steamship Great Republic on the Pacific coast, and has directed the inspectors of steam vessels at Portland, Ore., to make a thorough investigation of the casualty and forward a report to the Department.

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The Great Republic was built at New York in 1872 by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and was 3,021 tons burthen. She was placed on her route between San Francisco and China and Japan. On her last trip home-

ASSASSINATION FOILED.

Two Shots Fired at Edwin Booth on the Stage.

Fatal Affair in Tennessee. MEMPHIS, TENN., April 23.—This forenoon Deputy Sheriffs Harris and Britt proceeded nine miles south of this city to arrest Wiley Washington, colored, who had been indicted for shooting with intent to kill Major Matthews, of Crittenden County, Ark. Washington was found at his home, but when Deputy Harris took the warrant of arrest he refused to be taken. Harris attempted to use force, and in the scuffle Washington tried to wrench a pistol from his hand, whereupon Harris fired three shots, all taking effect in Washington's stomach. Seven colored men, who were near at hand, hearing the shooting, ran to the scene, and the two officers were compelled to flee for their lives, being pursued for nearly two miles by the mob. The officers were shot in the back by some of the pursuers, but their wounds are not dangerous.

Attempt to Assassinate Edwin Booth.

CHICAGO, April 23.—While Edwin Booth was giving the soliloquy in the last act of "Richard III." at McVicker's Theatre to-night a shot was fired at him by a man sitting in the left-hand upper gallery. Booth sat still until after about three seconds, when a second shot was fired, when he rose and started toward the left wing of the stage, pointing out all the while the would-be assassin. The latter was at once seized, and, but for the intervention of officers, would have been roughly handled. He states his name is Mark Gray; that he is twenty-three years old; a dry-goods clerk; that he is from Kookuk, Mo. He was only thirty feet distant from Booth when he fired the shot. He had on his person a letter addressed to a lady by the name of Katie, stating his intention of shooting Booth to-night, and asserting in a rambling way that Lawrence Barrett is a superior actor to Booth. He is now in custody at the Central Station, and will be held for trial to-morrow at McVicker's theatre after this episode, and the play proceeded to the end without further break. The name of the assassin is Mark Gray, not Mart Gray.

Woodruff's Scientific Expedition.

From an interview with Professor S. S. Norton, of the "Woodruff Scientific Expedition Around World," it appears that the quota of students and tourists is so nearly completed that there is no further doubt regarding the sailing of the General Vesder according to advertised time. Professor N. has just returned from an expedition to the West Indies, and a trip in the interests of this educational venture, and informs us that every important Southern city from Norfolk, Va., to Jacksonville, Fla., and from New Orleans to St. Louis, will send out representatives on this mammoth floating college around the world.

Soldiers' Arrears of Pay Due.

The Secretary of War transmitted to the Senate yesterday a communication from the Second Auditor of the Treasury, stating that although by the last deficiency act Congress appropriated \$50,000 for the payment of claims of colored volunteer soldiers which may be audited prior to July 1, 1880, no provision has been made for the payment of arrears of pay, &c., to white volunteer soldiers whose claims have been audited since January 6, 1878. Auditor French estimates that \$225,000 will be required to pay the latter class of claims between this date and July 1, 1880, and Secretary McCrary, in transmitting his communication, recommends legislation to place the claims of white and colored soldiers upon the same footing as to payment.

The Wheat Crop.

The April returns to the Department of Agriculture show that the average of winter wheat is about 12 per cent. greater than last year. This increase is due mostly to the transfer of the wheat-growing belt in the West and Northwest. Unless the spring sowings increase beyond present expectation there will be a reduced aggregate wheat average in 1879. The wheat in the ground, taken as a whole, is but 2 per cent. below average. The crop in some sections was unfavorably affected by fall drought and in others by the absence of snow during the extreme cold. With average growing crops, however, it will make a very large crop. The yield is about 4 per cent. in average, and is about 4 per cent. below average. It follows the general analogies of the wheat crop.

Capital and Departmental Notes.

Revenue receipts yesterday were—from internal revenue, \$471,353.37; from customs, \$396,545.75.

What Might Have Been.

The post-offices at Schenectady, N. Y.; Milton, Wis.; and St. Louis, Mo., were closed last night by the great fire. The fire at Schenectady was caused by the explosion of a boiler in the Westinghouse works, which destroyed the post-office building, and the loss of the mail was estimated at \$100,000.

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